

Application No.: 09/648,569
Attorney Docket No: 0202us810
Page 3 of 11

In the Claims:

~~1~~ Please cancel claims 96-110 and 112-115 without prejudice to subsequent renewal.

Please amend the claims by substituting the following claims for the corresponding previously pending claims of the same number(s):

B3 ~~1~~ 75. (Amended) An interferon β polypeptide variant exhibiting an interferon β activity, comprising a variant sequence which differs from the wildtype human interferon β sequence SEQ ID NO:2 in no more than 15 amino acid residues and which comprises the substitutions Q49N+Q51S/T relative to SEQ ID NO:2.

This amendment is made without prejudice to subsequent renewal and is not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter or agreement with any objection or rejection of record. In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, a marked up version showing the changes to the claim is attached herewith as **Appendix A**. For the Examiner's convenience, a complete set of the currently pending claims is also submitted herewith as **Appendix B**.

REMARKS

New Title

Applicants have amended the title herein to one which is more clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed, as requested by the Examiner.

Amendment to the Specification

The Specification is amended herein to correct a typographical error in a reference citation, and to incorporate Sequence Identification numbers (SEQ ID NO:s) into the specification at page 41. These amendments add no new matter.